WELSH BOROUGH COUNCIL
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MONMOUTH BOROUGH COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1953.

Council Offices,
18, St. James Street,
Monmouth.

September, 1954.

MONMOUTH BOROUGH COUNCIL.

Mayor. Mr. Alderman B. Partridge, J.P.

Deputy Mayor. Mr. Alderman N. C. Elstob, M.A., J.P.

ALDERMEN:

Mr. S. H. Bowen, J.P.

Mr. C. Hancocks.

COUNCILLORS:

Mr. B. Breakwell.

Mr. J. H. Dew.

Mr. R. A. Dodds.

Mr. R. H. George.

Mrs. V. M. Griffin.

Mr. T. J. Griffiths.

Mr. R. Hook.

Mr. J. P. K. Rennie.

Mr. G. E. Smith.

Mr. G. W. V. Sterrett.

Mr. R. P. B. Thomas.

Mr. E. I. Willis.

Town Clerk - R. Wallis, A.I.M.T.A.

Public Health Committee.

Chairman - Mr. Councillor G. E. Smith.

Mr. Alderman C. Hancocks.

Mr. Councillor R. A. Dodds.

Mr. Councillor R. H. George.

Councillor Mrs. V. M. Griffin.

Mr. Councillor T. J. Griffiths.

Mr. Councillor E. I. Willis.

Public Health Staff.

Medical Officer of Health - E. N. Dowell, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector - W. J. H. Biddle, M.I.Mun.E., A.R.San.I.

Borough of Monmouth.

Council Offices,

Monmouth.

To:- The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Monmouth.

Madam and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary conditions for the year ended 31st December, 1953.

On the whole the health of the Borough is satisfactory. There has been an increase in the number of notifications of Pulmonary Tuberculosis but there were were no notifications of Poliomyelitis or Diptheria.

I remain,

Your obedient Servant,

E. N. DOWELL.

Medical Officer of Health.

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STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (acres)	7,101

Population.

Estimated mid-year population.	5,738
On last year's figure this shows a decrease of	10
Number of Inhabited Houses.	1,889
Rateable Value (31st March, 1953)	£30,151
Sum represented by a Penny Rate.	£117 10s.

EXTRACTS FROM THE VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS.

Live Births.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate.	40	36	76
Illegitimate.	5	1	6

In 1952 the total number of births was 111. In 1950 and 1951 the total number was 84.

Still Births.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate.	2	1	3

There were 3 still births in 1952.

INFANT MORTALITY.

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age.	Males.
Legitimate	1

The following gives the age at and cause of death of an infant who died before the age of one year:-

(1) Male. 4/12 yr. 1. a. Convulsions.
b. Acute Gastro-enteritis.

In 1951 there were 5 deaths of infants under 1 year and 3 in 1952.

DEATHS.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Deaths.	34	29	63

There were 69 deaths in 1952 and 81 in 1951. Although there has been a fall in the total number of deaths, the fall has been related to females only. There were no deaths attributed to Pulmonary Tuberculosis and only 2 to Malignant Neoplasm of the Lung. Nine deaths, which is 2 less than in 1952, were attributed to Coronary Disease. For the fourth successive year there were no deaths due to Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion.

Of the total deaths 30 were 70 years or over at the time of death.

Table II gives a classification of the causes of deaths and the number attributed to each cause.

Monmouth Borough 1953.

GENERAL EPIDEMIOLOGY.

Diptheria.

No cases of diptheria were notified. There were no cases in 1952.

Diptheria Immunisation.

Of the children born in the years 1952, 1951 and 1950, at the end of the year 25, 39 and 46 were immunised. At the end of 1952 the number immunised for these years was 1, 25 and 36. In 1952 the total number of live births was 111 and in 1950 and 1951 it was 84.

4 children born in 1953 were immunised by the end of the year.

The total number of children immunised in the Borough is still low.

The three Infant Schools in the Borough were visited and 28 children were given a booster dose and 27 were immunised for the first time.

On the 9-6-53 diptheria immunisation and "booster" doses were suspended throughout the County as a result of the occurrence of a case of Poliomyelitis in a child at Blaina. It re-commenced on 18-9-53.

Scarlet Fever.

2 cases were notified. There were 4 in 1952.

Measles.

39 notifications were received, and of these 17 were in the age-group 5 - 9 years. There were 57 notifications in 1952.

Whooping Cough.

There were 19 notifications; 8 were received in 1952.

Immunisation against Whooping Cough has not been started.

Poliomyelitis.

No notifications were received. This is the third successive year that no notifications were received.

Tuberculosis.

The following were the notifications of new cases received during the year:-

(i) Male 20 yrs.

(ii) Male 5 yrs.

(iii) Female 17 yrs.

(iv) Male 18 yrs.

(v) Male 68 yrs.

(vi) Female 3 yrs. Meningitis. Died Allt-yr-yn Hospital on 1st January, 1953. First notification as transferable death.

(vii) Female 51 yrs. Notified 22-7-53 Lungs. Died City Isolation Hospital, Cardiff, on 1-11-53 - Tb. Meningitis.

(viii) Female 11 yrs.

(ix) Male 27 yrs.

(x) Female 37 yrs. Mother of xii and xvi and aunt of xvii.

(xi) Male 18 yrs. Brother of xv.

(xii) Female 19 yrs.

(xiii) Male 18 yrs.

(xiv) Female 52 yrs.

(xv) Female 16 yrs.

(xvi) Female 4 yrs.

(xvii) Female 4 yrs.

During the year 1952 there were 10 notifications of new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis, 3 males and 7 females, and of these 4 occurred in the age-group 15-24.

Mass Radiography Unit.

The Mass Radiography Unit visited Monmouth in November. It was located at Monmouth General Hospital. So far no figures have been published by the Unit.

Deaths in Monmouth M.B. 1953.

	Males.	Females.
Tuberculosis, other.		2
Malignant neoplasm, stomach.	1	2
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus.	2	
Malignant neoplasm, breast.		2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms.	1	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system	7	7
Coronary disease, angina.	5	4
Hypertension with heart disease.		1
Other heart disease.	6	6
Other circulatory disease.	2	1
Pneumonia.	3	1
Bronchitis.		1
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum.	1	
Gastritis, enteritis, and diarrhoea.	1	
Other defined and ill-defined diseases.	3	
Motor vehicle accidents.	2	
ALL CAUSES.	34	29

Monmouth Borough.

ANALYSIS OF TOTAL CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) ACCORDING TO AGE GROUPS.

DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED. AGE GROUPS.							
	Under 1 yr.	1 2	3 4	5 9	10 14	15 24	25 and over.	Total.
Diptheria								
Scarlet Fever.		1				1		2
Enteric Fever.								
Pneumonia.								
Puerperal Fever.								
Erysipelas.							2	2
Acute Poliomyelitis.								
Food Poisoning.								
Dysentery.								
Puerperal Pyrexia.								
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.								
Measles and German Measles.		9	8	17	4	1		39
Whooping Cough.	3	1	7	7			1	19
TOTALS.	3	11	15	24	4	2	3	62

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

The main water supply of the town is supplied by the Wales Gas Board, Monmouth Gas & Water Undertaking. This supply has been regularly examined:- twenty-one samples were taken and twenty proved satisfactory and one unsatisfactory.

Two samples were taken from other supplies, both were unsatisfactory.

Drainage and Sewerage.

Four new connections have been made.

Rivers and Streams.

Pollution is very slight.

Closet Accommodation.

There are 1,759 premises with Water Closet accommodation of which 1,484 are on main drainage and 275 are served by cesspools and septic tanks.

Public Cleansing.

The area of collection for house refuse remains the same as for previous year.

Sanitary Inspections of the Area.

	Inspections.	Informal Notice.	Formal Notice.	Complied With.
Housing.	23	8	-	8
Bakehouses.	20	-	-	-
Slaughter House.	Daily.			
Infectious Diseases.	19	-	-	-
Nuisances.	107	25	-	25
Disinfections.	6	-	-	-
Factories.	32	1	-	1
Disinfestation.	4	-	-	-
Camping Sites.	6	4	-	4
Unsound Food.	51	-	-	-

Shops.

No action.

Camping Sites.

There are three sites licenced.

Smoke Abatement.

No action.

Swimming Pools.

None are open to the general public.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

(a)	Number of Council Houses infested.	1
	Number of Other Houses infested.	1
(b)	Infested houses sealed and fumigated.	2
(c)	Belongings of tenants removed and fumigated.	-

Schools.

All schools are on the main sewerage system, and all schools are connected to the main water supply.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply - Cleanliness and Bacteriological Examination.

Fifteen samples of milk were submitted to the County Bacteriologist for examination and report.

The results are shown below:-

Tests.	T.T. Pasteurised.		T.T.		Ungraded.	
	Passed.	Failed.	Passed.	Failed.	Passed.	Failed.
Methylene Blue.	1	-	-	1	9	3
Phosphatase.	1	-	-	-	-	-

Meat and Other Foods.

During the year 13,162 lbs. meat and 8,723 lbs. edible offal were condemned.

7,972 carcases were inspected.

The following other foods were destroyed:-

46 tins meat.	233 containers of manufactured foodstuffs.
25 tins fish.	5½ stones fish.
176 tins fruit.	66 lb. sausage.
176 tins vegetables.	

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle excluding cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed (if known)	595	82	637	5767	891
Number Inspected.	595	82	637	5767	891
All diseases except Tuberculosis:-					
Whole carcases condemned.	2	8	15	55	10
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	309	50	5	551	81
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tb.	52%	70%	3.1%	10.3%	10.2%
Tuberculosis only:-					
Whole carcases condemned	3	1	1	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	5	4	-	-	17
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tb.	1.5%	0.4%	0.1%	-	3%

Food Poisoning Outbreaks. NIL.

Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations 1947 and 1951.

Four premises are registered for the manufacture and sale of ice-cream, and sixteen premises are registered for the sale of pre-packed ice-cream.

Rodent Infestation.

A trained Operative is employed and during the year 294 inspections were made, seven business premises and seventy-one private dwelling houses were treated.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

INSPECTIONS for purpose of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Sanitary Inspector.)

	Number of:-		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6, are enforced by Local Authorities.	5	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	27	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Outworkers' premises).	-	-	-
TOTAL.	32	-	-

DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of cases in which defects were found:-			
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Prosecutions instituted.
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)				
(a) insufficient.	-	-	-	-
(b) unsuitable or defective.	1	1	-	-
(c) not separate for sexes.	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork.)	-	-	-	-
TOTAL.	1	1	-	-

There are no Outworkers.